

## Abstract of the Disclosure

5       Tobaccos are cured in a manner so as to provide tobaccos having extremely  
low tobacco specific nitrosamine (TSNA) contents. Harvested Virginia tobacco is  
subjected to flue-curing so as to provide flue-cured tobacco. During the curing  
processing steps, contact of the tobacco with nitric oxide gases, such as those  
produced as combustion products of propane burning heating units, is avoided.  
Tobacco in curing barns is not subjected to direct-fire curing techniques, but rather,  
10       heat for tobacco curing can be provided by heat exchange or electrical heating  
methods.